



## Natural Magic

*Doreen Valiente*

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## **Natural Magic** Doreen Valiente

Did you know that the thickness of the layers in a locally grown onion will indicate the severity of the coming winter? Magic is all around us, in stones, flowers, stars, the dawn wind, and the sunset cloud. All we need is the ability to see it, understand it, and apply it. Magic works because of nature's laws, not in spite of them, and Valiente shows how to practice the age-old white magic which has been familiar to the Wise Ones for centuries.

## **Natural Magic Details**

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## From Reader Review Natural Magic for online ebook

### **Beth says**

One of my favorite books ever. I could not believe how much I learned just from this one book. Would highly recommend to anyone the least bit interested in knowing more about overall well being.

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### **Rebecca says**

Curious book, it's older and has some shoddy historical parts but it touches on a decent variety of topics.

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### **Gabriel Vidrine says**

Another good book by Doreen Valiente. Lots of lovely little nuggets of folklore, natural magic (hence the title), and poems. I've always liked her writing style, and she explains things in a very simple manner. This book was not heavy into actual spells (thank goodness) like other magic books. Instead, she introduced areas and put them into a different perspective on how to use them in magic. There were no long, silly lists of correspondences, just little bits of lore and "Here's something to think about..."

I liked this quite a lot!

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### **Alexia Moon says**

This book is just fantastic. Not only is she my favourite author but she was also an amazing Witch. This book is essential to all those who wish to practice Natural Magick. Of course it has a bit of Wiccan influence but with a careful reading it can be adapted to several types of practices. Definitely recommend it!

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### **Tasneem says**

I liked this book. It is a very useful primer and gives you the gist of what needs to be understood about modern magic/wicca/paganism. The writing style is simple to understand, the concepts fully explained.

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### **Max Hale says**

A very special person Doreen. This book explains the magick in everything around us. It is a great read.

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## Bel says

I've already been a witch since I was small thanks to the place I'm from and having a mother who is a child of the hippie generation, so a lot - but not all - of the knowledge in this book was not really new to me. However, it serves as a wonderful primer for beginners and those looking to get a general understanding of the magical correspondences of numbers, colours and herbs etc, as well as country wisdom and the origin of well-known sayings and so forth which are commonly made use of in witchcraft. It also works well as a refresher or source book for more experienced witches. The wording is easy to read and Valiente's writing is sober and matter-of-fact, unlike many other books on the subject. Despite its age, it's still as useful as ever and well deserving of a place on the bookshelf.

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## Steve Cran says

People make magic out to be something that is really is not. Magic is unnatural, magic is bad, magic is and magic is that. All these supposition are wrong. Magic is natural and it occurs on a regular basis. Magic can be used for both good or bad of course with attendant consequences. Magic is something most of us do every day quite unconsciously. It is focusing the mind on a desired out come or goal and directing our mental energy towards that goal. Magic is also non denominational and does not require fancy tools in order to be performed, well with the exception of your mind.

Doreen's book cover almost all areas of magic. Starting with the use of the element, air, fire, water and earth finished off with a topping of the spirit of ether. She next moves into using the power of herbs and flowers. Herbs and flower have intrinsic properties to help reach certain goals. Patchouli is great for aphrodisiac effects while wearing a poultice of cinquefoil gives one Mercurial qualities of being able to charm people and get what you want. Collecting herbs for the most part should be done on or near a fool moon.

Numbers are magical as well. To find your personal number you would need to number value chart contained in her book. Add your letters together and you usually come up with a double digit number. Add the two digit of that number together and you get your personal number. You can do the same with the number of your birthday it may be your lucky number. Odd numbers are best. Colors also have magical power. Blue is for healing, purple is for psychic power, red can be for martial aggression or more assertiveness maybe even passionate love. Pink is for gentle love while silver the color of the moon is for psychic ability and intuitiveness. Colors are used rather effectively in candle magic where in the practitioner lights a colored candle corresponding with their desire. Green might be used for money or fertility. Light it say an invocation and focus on your desire.

Talismans and amulets deal mostly with stones and their properties. Talismans bring something positive to us while amulets keep evil away. Bloodstone protected warriors in battle and it was also used to stop bleeding. Different rocks and stone have different planetary properties. Sexual power is brought in as well. Sexual activity produces a lot of energy and power. It was used by the ancient Greeks and in modern rituals of witches. Alester Crowley used a lot of it as well.

Dreams can give us inventions and solutions to our problem and the most unique of ways. They also warn us sometimes of imminent danger. To better improve your dream recall you should keep a note pad by the side of your bed and write down your dreams. Dreams are interpreted differently for different people based on the dreamers own life experiences. Weather can be controlled by magic or the inherent power in weather can be used to help the practitioner reach their magical goals. Animals like cats are often witches familiars. Their inherent psychic ability helps the witch traverse the spiritual realms and communicate wit spirit. Animals are sometime messenger or portents. Crows and magpies mean different things based on how many are spotted. Owls have a meaning and of course the big black dog or the "Black Shuck" portends death and in some cases saves from death. The book finishes off with a discussion on using playing cards for divination and traditional spells that deal with banishing warts.

This is the magic of the village wise woman brought up to date for the purpose of good. Everything is ethical

and safe. Reference is made extensively to Agrippas works. Be good to follow up with that.

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### **Abraxas Abrasaxtes says**

A classic and an essential to any Wiccan Library. I don't want to rub it in but I actually found a first edition hard copy at a used book store in San Francisco a few years ago for FIVE DOLLARS!! Gods did I jump for joy on that one! This book is semi-dated as it was written back in the mid-seventies but it has some great info in it. Valiente (if you don't already know) was the original author of the legendary poem "The Charge of the Goddess" copied and pasted and reprinted in almost all Wiccan resources. Without her books (along with Crowley, Gardner, and to an extent The Farrars) we wouldn't even have the plethora of books on the subject available today that we do. ALL modern Pagan authors have these "originals" to thank. If you find a copy DEFINITELY pick it up if for no other reason than Wiccan historical purposes.

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### **Colubrina Laticauda says**

Un libro delizioso, uscito originalmente nel 1975, ma che non riesco a trovare datato. Non è il classico manuale di magia moderno, la Valiente ci introduce alla magia raccontandoci quello che ha scoperto con l'esperienza o studiato nei libri di folklore. Ovviamente si concentra per o più sulle credenze e tradizioni inglesi, ma ci sono note e raffronti anche sul resto del mondo. Alla fine c'è una raccolta di incantesimi tradizionali raccolti qua e là, che per sua stessa ammissione non ha provato, e che ci racconta per farci capire come è stato il pensiero magico delle campagne. Una lettura piacevolissima, lo consiglio si agli studiosi di stregoneria che agli amanti del folklore.

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### **Aletheia says**

A well-written and intriguing look at the subject of magic in life. Upon reading the first chapter of the book I was completely captivated, and really appreciated the authors style. I like the emphasis that magic is a product of the mind and will of man. It is not some occult secret-power, but something that everyone has and make use of. Brilliant!

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### **Ghanima says**

When I read the title I expected a book filled with correspondences, rules and rituals on how to celebrate the sabbaths. I am glad I read it anyway, because I found a collection of folklore, complete with poems. This was a very entertaining read. Valiente's choice of words is short and simple, which I really liked.

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### **Lisa James says**

Doreen wrote of the magic in the world all around us. It's not limited to crystals or in herbs, but in the air, the water, fire, numbers, colors, etc. She was a pioneer in bringing magic to a new generation of witches

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worldwide.

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### **Gabriel Clarke says**

Amiable compendium of folk beliefs. I'm beginning to sense that a full appreciation of Doreen Valiente requires a bit more of a personal connection.

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### **Amanda says**

Natural Magic compiled many pieces of miscellaneous lore, mostly related to Great Britain, and organized it according to categories like "Plants," "Animals" or "Sex." I enjoyed this book, though it felt a bit dated at times. Valiente mentions World War II frequently during the book, and I had to remind myself that when this book was written, World War II had not happened so long ago, and England had been very affected by it. I also appreciated that Valiente did not share any magical practices overtly harmful to animals or the environment, though I did not like the idea of throwing magical items with glass, paper or string in bodies of water or otherwise into the environment. Overall, it's a dense book with an eye to catch the reader up on magical practices from the Elizabethan period and before. This is a valuable book to deepen your understanding of the historical roots of Western magic and pick up on people, books, ideas and practices that numerous other more recently written books on magic don't cover as thoroughly.

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